Menace of Quacks

1096. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that more than 40,000 quacks in the Capital, are playing havoc with the lives of innocent people belonging to the lower segment of the society;

(b) whether Government have chalked out any plan to check the growing menace of quacks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Health is a State subject and the State Governments and the Medical Councils who grant registration to practitioners take action where called for.

Provisions exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, to take action against unregistered practitioners of medicine. Any person who acts in contravention of the provisions can be punished with imprisonment and fine under the respective Acts.

Research on Malaria Parasite

1097. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently a German based European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, has identified four proteins that affect the ability of malaria parasite to survive in mosquitoes; and

(b) if so, the results of the research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Scientists at European Molocular Biology Laboratory (EMBL),

Heidelberg are reported to have identified four mosquito proteins that affect the ability of malaria parasite (plasmodium) to survive and develop in the malaria carrier mosquito (Anopheles).

Two of the mosquito proteins *i.e.* TEP1 and LRIM1 have been shown to be defendors of the mosquito killing of the parasite in insect's gut and by enhancing these natural defenders, parasite mosquito cycle can be blocked.

In addition to defender proteins, two other proteins CTL4 and CTLMA2 have been discovered, which have an opposite effect; actually protecting the parasite as it develops in the mosquito gut. If these proteins were eliminated, the parasite died.

This breakthrough in research could be used to block the transmission of malaria parasite from mosquito to man.

Yoga Therapy Certificates

1098. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether trainees awarded with yoga therapy certificates by recognized institutes in India could be treated as registered medical practitioners or appropriately trained persons, since yoga had already been recognized as traditional system of medicines;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether yoga therapists from recognized yoga institutes can practise acupuncture after undergoing certificate course in acupuncture without using the word Doctor;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details with addresses of recognized institutes in India offering certificate courses in acupuncture;

(f) whether Dr. Lohia's Indian Academy of Acupunture Science, in Maharashtra, is recognized to train for certificate courses in acupuncture; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?